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LOUISIANA LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Phyllis C. Mouton, Secretary

BATON ROUGE
P.O. Box 94094

OCTOBER, 1988

RELEASE DATE:
November 28, 1988

LOUISIANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

(In thousands)	PRELIMINARY OCTOBER 1988				REVISED SEPTEMBER 1988				REVISED OCTOBER 1987			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
LOUISIANA	1,930.3	1,746.9	183.4	9.5	1,925.2	1,736.8	188.4	9.8	1,933.1	1,743.0	190.1	9.8
LABOR MARKET AREAS:												
Alexandria 1/	61.2	56.0	5.2	8.6	61.0	55.6	5.4	8.9	61.5	56.6	4.9	8.0
Baton Rouge 2/	267.9	244.8	23.1	8.6	267.2	243.5	23.7	8.9	264.0	242.0	22.0	8.3
Houma - Thibodaux 3/	69.9	63.7	6.2	8.9	68.8	62.3	6.5	9.5	71.4	63.1	8.3	11.6
Lafayette 4/	99.0	90.4	8.6	8.7	98.2	89.4	8.8	8.9	99.3	89.3	10.0	10.1
Lake Charles 5/	74.3	66.7	7.6	10.2	74.9	66.9	8.0	10.7	75.6	66.9	8.7	11.5
Monroe 6/	69.0	62.7	6.3	9.1	68.7	62.3	6.4	9.3	68.6	62.8	5.8	8.5
New Orleans 7/	593.9	542.6	51.3	8.6	595.6	542.5	53.1	8.9	598.5	545.7	52.8	8.8
Shreveport 8/	165.5	150.1	15.4	9.3	165.1	149.6	15.5	9.4	167.3	152.0	15.3	9.2

Parishes included in above Labor Market Areas are listed at the end of the Employment and Payroll Trends narrative.

CORRECTION:

The October, 1988 labor force figure for Louisiana was incorrectly reported as 1,903.3. The correct figure is 1,930.3.

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12/9/88

LOUISIANA LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

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LABOR MARKET AREAS:												
Alexandria 1/	61.2	56.0	5.2	8.6	61.0	55.6	5.4	8.9	61.5	56.6	4.9	8.0
Baton Rouge 2/	267.9	244.8	23.1	8.6	267.2	243.5	23.7	8.9	264.0	242.0	22.0	8.3
Houma - Thibodaux 3/	69.9	63.7	6.2	8.9	68.8	62.3	6.5	9.5	71.4	63.1	8.3	11.6
Lafayette 4/	99.0	90.4	8.6	8.7	98.2	89.4	8.8	8.9	99.3	89.3	10.0	10.1
Lake Charles 5/	74.3	66.7	7.6	10.2	74.9	66.9	8.0	10.7	75.6	66.9	8.7	11.5
Monroe 6/	69.0	62.7	6.3	9.1	68.7	62.3	6.4	9.3	68.6	62.8	5.8	8.5
New Orleans 7/	593.9	542.6	51.3	8.6	595.6	542.5	53.1	8.9	598.5	545.7	52.8	8.8
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Parishes included in above Labor Market Areas are listed at the end of the Employment and Payroll Trends narrative.

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in Louisiana during October amounted to 1,513,200, an increase of 9,600 above the previous month and an increase of 11,300 above the comparable period a year ago. Much of the increase in nonmanufacturing industries for October occurred in the government segment. Manufacturing employment was up for the current month as a result of an increase in nondurable goods.

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Employment in the durable goods segment of manufacturing decreased from 74,700 in September to 74,500 in October. Compared to October 1987, durable goods employment has increased by 3,200 employees.

Estimated employment in the nondurable goods segment of manufacturing for October amounted to 96,500, an increase of 1,000 above last month's level. The increase was centered in food and kindred products and was the result of a seasonal upturn in sugar cane processing.

Louisiana's employment in nonmanufacturing industries during October was 1,342,200, an increase of 8,800 from the September figure of 1,333,400. Mining employment was down as a result of a decrease in the exploration for oil and gas. Construction payrolls fell by 100. Transportation and public utilities suffered a decrease in employment level largely due to a slowdown in the water transportation segment. Trade employment was up due largely to increased hiring at department stores and specialty shops in preparation for the holiday season. Increases in business services and educational services were significant in the upward movement for total services employment. Government employment increased primarily as the result of state and local educational institutions continuing their seasonal increase.

Average weekly earnings of the state's 125,400 production workers in manufacturing increased from $468.52 in September to $468.60 in October, a gain of eight cents and an increase of $10.07 from the comparable period a year ago. Average hourly earnings were five cents lower in October than last month but $0.16 higher than the year-ago figure. Average weekly hours for October were 42.6, an increase of 0.2 hours from last month's figure.

Total unemployment for Louisiana during October was 183,400, a decrease of 5,000 below the September revised level of 188,400. The unemployment rate for October was 9.5 percent, compared to 9.8 percent for September and 9.8 percent for October 1987. The comparable national unemployment rate for October was 5.0 percent, compared to 5.2 percent for September and 5.7 percent in October a year ago. Louisiana's civilian labor force moved from 1,925,200 in September to 1,930,300 in October, an increase of 5,100. Total employment moved from 1,736,800 in September to 1,746,900 in October, an increase of 10,100 workers.

The state's unemployment rate may show a decline in the coming months. Hiring for the holiday season is expected in the retail trade segment, and government may continue to gain employees over the next month.

1/ Rapides Parish only. 2/ Includes Ascension, East Baton Rouge, Livingston, and West Baton Rouge parishes. 3/ Includes Lafourche and Terrebonne parishes. 4/ Includes Lafayette and St. Martin parishes. 5/ Calcasieu Parish only. 6/ Ouachita Parish only. 7/ Includes Jefferson, Orleans, St. Bernard, St. Tammany , St. Charles and St. John the Baptist parishes. 8/ Includes Bossier and Caddo parishes.

LOUISIANA
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
(In Thousands by Industry)

	October 1988*	Sept. 1988**	October 1987**	Net Change from Sept. 1988	Net Change from October 1987
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	1,513.2	1,503.6	1,501.9	+ 9.6	+11.3
MINING	54.3	54.8	54.9	- 0.5	- 0.6
Oil and Gas Extraction	51.6	52.1	52.2	- 0.5	- 0.6
Nonmetallic Minerals	2.7	2.7	2.7	0	0
CONSTRUCTION	83.5	83.6	80.9	- 0.1	+ 2.6
MANUFACTURING	171.0	170.2	167.2	+ 0.8	+ 3.8
Durable Goods	74.5	74.7	71.3	- 0.2	+ 3.2
Lumber and Wood Products	12.0	12.1	12.4	- 0.1	- 0.4
Furniture and Fixtures	0.6	0.6	0.8	0	- 0.2
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	5.6	5.5	5.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Primary Metal Industries	3.2	3.2	2.8	0	+ 0.4
Fabricated Metal Products	11.8	11.8	10.9	0	+ 0.9
Machinery, Except Electrical	9.3	9.4	8.4	- 0.1	+ 0.9
Electrical & Electronic Equipment	6.8	6.8	7.1	0	- 0.3
Transportation Equipment	22.6	22.7	21.1	- 0.1	+ 1.5
Other Durable Goods (1)	2.6	2.6	2.3	0	+ 0.3
Nondurable Goods	96.5	95.5	95.9	+ 1.0	+ 0.6
Food & Kindred Products	21.2	20.2	21.9	+ 1.0	- 0.7
Apparel & Other Textile Products	9.7	9.5	9.3	+ 0.2	+ 0.4
Paper & Allied Products	12.2	12.2	11.9	0	+ 0.3
Printing & Publishing	10.2	10.3	10.2	- 0.1	0
Chemicals & Allied Products	26.0	26.0	25.4	0	+ 0.6
Petroleum and Coal Products	12.5	12.4	12.3	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Petroleum Refining	11.5	11.4	11.3	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Other Nondurable Goods (2)	4.7	4.9	4.9	- 0.2	- 0.2
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	105.9	106.1	104.7	- 0.2	+ 1.2
Railroad Transportation	5.2	5.2	5.4	0	- 0.2
Transportation, ex. Railroads	60.5	60.7	59.1	- 0.2	+ 1.4
Water Transportation	23.1	23.7	22.6	- 0.6	+ 0.5
Communication & Electric, Gas & Sanitary Ser.	40.2	40.2	40.2	0	0
Communication, Exc. U S Postal Service	18.2	18.1	18.1	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Electric, Gas & Sanitary Services	22.0	22.1	22.1	- 0.1	- 0.1
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	367.6	364.4	366.2	+ 3.2	+ 1.4
Wholesale Trade	83.9	83.4	82.1	+ 0.5	+ 1.8
Wholesale Trade-Durable Goods	46.5	46.2	45.2	+ 0.3	+ 1.3
Wholesale Trade-Nondurable Goods	37.4	37.2	36.9	+ 0.2	+ 0.5
Retail Trade	283.7	281.0	284.1	+ 2.7	- 0.4
Gen. Merchandise, Apparel & Acc.	59.2	58.3	59.1	+ 0.9	+ 0.1
Food Stores	56.7	56.4	57.4	+ 0.3	- 0.7
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	31.1	31.2	31.1	- 0.1	0
Eating & Drinking Places	85.6	84.9	85.2	+ 0.7	+ 0.4
Other Retail Trade	51.1	50.2	51.3	+ 0.9	- 0.2

LOUISIANA - CONTINUED
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
(In Thousands by Industry)

	October 1988*	Sept. 1988**	October 1987**	Net Change from Sept. 1988	Net Change from October 1987
FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE	84.0	84.1	84.7	- 0.1	- 0.7
Banking	24.2	24.2	25.1	0	- 0.9
SERVICES	333.9	332.1	327.7	+ 1.8	+ 6.2
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	22.4	22.5	22.4	- 0.1	0
Personal Services	14.7	14.6	14.1	+ 0.1	+ 0.6
Business Services	60.9	59.4	58.6	+ 1.5	+ 2.3
Auto Repair, Services & Garages	9.5	9.3	9.8	+ 0.2	- 0.3
Miscellaneous Repair Services	5.2	5.3	5.4	- 0.1	- 0.2
Amusement & Recreation Services	9.2	9.6	10.0	- 0.4	- 0.8
Health Services	103.8	103.9	102.2	- 0.1	+ 1.6
Legal Services	15.7	15.6	15.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
Educational Services	27.7	26.9	24.6	+ 0.8	+ 3.1
Social Services	18.6	18.7	18.6	- 0.1	0
Membership Organizations	25.2	25.2	26.0	0	- 0.8
Miscellaneous Services	14.8	14.9	14.7	- 0.1	+ 0.1
GOVERNMENT	313.0	308.3	315.6	+ 4.7	- 2.6
Federal	36.3	36.5	36.2	- 0.2	+ 0.1
State and Local	276.7	271.8	279.4	+ 4.9	- 2.7
State	96.8	94.5	100.0	+ 2.3	- 3.2
Local	179.9	177.3	179.4	+ 2.6	+ 0.5

* Preliminary **Revised
(1) Includes Professional equipment and misc. manufacturing industries
(2) Includes Leather, Rubber and Textile products.

All estimates of Nonagricultural wage and salaried workers in this publication are prepared in cooperation with U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, with the exception of the Lake Charles LMA which is prepared under the auspices of the Louisiana Department of Labor, and include all full time and part time workers who were employed during the pay period including the 12th of the month.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING AND SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IN LOUISIANA

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	October '88*	Sept. '88**	October '87**	October '88*	Sept. '88**	October '87**	October '88*	Sept. '88**	October '87**
All MANUFACTURING (1)	$468.60	$468.52	$458.53	42.6	42.4	42.3	$11.00	$11.05	$10.84
Durable Goods	422.30	414.66	413.97	42.4	41.8	41.9	9.96	9.92	9.88
Lumber & Wood Products	351.53	353.13	362.56	42.2	42.7	44.0	8.33	8.27	8.24
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	388.24	366.12	391.73	42.2	40.5	43.0	9.20	9.04	9.11
Fabricated Metal Products	426.80	414.60	435.49	44.0	44.2	43.9	9.70	9.38	9.92
Machinery, ex. Electrical	383.26	389.67	405.24	41.3	41.9	44.0	9.28	9.30	9.21
Electric & Electronic Equip.	570.84	548.36	496.13	42.6	41.7	37.7	13.40	13.15	13.16
Transportation Equipment	456.79	440.36	432.12	42.1	40.4	39.9	10.85	10.90	10.83
Nondurable Goods	507.94	513.94	495.75	42.9	42.9	42.7	11.84	11.98	11.61
Food & Kindred Products	302.74	306.90	323.33	40.8	39.6	42.6	7.42	7.75	7.59
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	201.28	198.24	196.91	37.0	35.4	36.6	5.44	5.60	5.38
Paper & Allied Products	598.98	575.48	602.56	44.8	43.4	44.8	13.37	13.26	13.45
Printing & Publishing	399.25	403.13	390.56	38.5	38.8	38.9	10.37	10.39	10.04
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	722.50	739.47	702.85	45.1	47.1	44.4	16.02	15.70	15.83
Petroleum & Coal Products	759.23	781.74	699.98	48.7	50.5	45.9	15.59	15.48	15.25
Petroleum Refining	779.59	805.29	715.93	49.0	51.0	46.1	15.91	15.79	15.53
MINING	542.60	507.79	524.57	46.1	42.6	45.3	11.77	11.92	11.58
COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC UTILITIES	524.39	537.72	521.48	40.4	40.4	40.3	12.98	13.31	12.94
BANKING	274.17	270.84	260.22	37.1	36.6	38.1	7.39	7.40	6.83

(1) Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 125,400 full and part-time workers in manufacturing and 88,300 nonsupervisory employees in communications, public utilities, mining and banking. The averages are computed on a "Gross" basis and reflect over-time, late shift work and incentive rates.

LOUISIANA EMPLOYMENT SITUATION BY LABOR MARKET AREA

	PRELIMINARY 10 88				REVISED 09 88			
	LABOR FORCE	EMPL.	UNEMP	RATE	LABOR FORCE	EMPL.	UNEMP	RATE
CROWLEY (ACADIA)	22,775	20,200	2,575	11.4	22,725	20,075	2,650	11.6
OAKDALE (ALLEN)	9,875	8,775	1,100	11.1	9,850	8,700	1,150	11.6
NAPOLEONVILLE (ASSUMPTION)	5,950	5,100	850	14.3	6,000	5,100	900	14.9
BUNKIE (AVOYELLES)	15,900	13,625	2,275	14.3	15,525	13,200	2,325	15.0
DERIDDER (BEAUREGARD)	15,475	14,100	1,375	8.9	15,475	14,000	1,475	9.5
ARCADIA (BIENVILLE)	6,625	5,950	675	10.4	6,575	5,850	725	11.0
COLUMBIA (CALDWELL)	4,350	3,850	500	11.3	4,200	3,725	475	11.4
CAMERON (CAMERON)	4,975	4,500	475	9.4	4,725	4,350	375	8.0
JONESVILLE (CATAHOULA)	4,250	3,600	650	15.4	4,050	3,375	675	16.6
HOMER (CLAIBORNE)	8,050	7,325	725	8.9	8,125	7,425	700	8.6
FERRIDAY (CONCORDIA)	10,000	8,775	1,225	12.2	10,075	8,775	1,300	13.0
MANSFIELD (DESOTO)	13,075	11,650	1,425	10.9	13,125	11,600	1,525	11.6
LAKE PROVIDENCE (E. CARROLL)	4,150	3,600	550	13.3	4,100	3,525	575	14.3
CLINTON (EAST FELICIANA)	9,125	8,300	825	9.1	9,025	8,200	825	9.1
VILLE PLATTE(EVANGELINE)	13,150	11,675	1,475	11.3	13,000	11,450	1,550	11.9
WINNSBORO (FRANKLIN)	8,500	7,475	1,025	12.1	8,250	7,225	1,025	12.5
COLFAX (GRANT)	6,800	6,000	800	11.7	6,750	5,975	775	11.4
NEW IBERIA (IBERIA)	24,700	22,100	2,600	10.5	24,125	21,425	2,700	11.2
PLAQUEMINE (IBERVILLE)	11,775	10,000	1,775	15.0	11,475	9,800	1,675	14.7
JONESBORO (JACKSON)	7,300	6,800	500	6.9	7,325	6,825	500	6.9
JENNINGS (JEFFERSON DAVIS)	12,225	10,600	1,625	13.2	12,100	10,525	1,575	13.0
JENA (LASALLE)	6,700	6,075	625	9.4	6,650	5,975	675	10.2
RUSTON (LINCOLN)	18,625	17,525	1,100	5.9	18,425	17,525	900	4.9
TALLULAH (MADISON)	5,700	5,000	700	12.4	5,650	4,875	775	13.7
BASTROP (MOREHOUSE)	12,550	11,075	1,475	11.7	12,400	10,800	1,600	12.9
NATCHITOCHES (NATCHITOCHES)	16,550	15,150	1,400	8.4	16,700	15,175	1,525	9.1
POINT-A-LA-HACHE (PLAQUM.)	9,025	8,150	875	9.7	9,025	8,150	875	9.7
NEW ROADS (POINTE COUPEE)	7,475	6,225	1,250	16.7	7,400	6,100	1,300	17.6
COUSHATTA (RED RIVER)	4,175	3,775	400	9.7	4,200	3,700	500	12.0
RAYVILLE (RICHLAND)	9,125	8,025	1,100	12.1	9,000	7,875	1,125	12.4
MANY (SABINE)	10,175	9,350	825	8.2	10,125	9,275	850	8.3
GREENSBURG (ST. HELENA)	2,825	2,525	300	11.0	2,750	2,425	325	11.8
LUTCHER (ST. JAMES)	8,250	7,175	1,075	12.9	8,200	7,050	1,150	14.0
OPELOUSAS (ST. LANDRY)	33,450	28,525	4,925	14.7	33,225	28,225	5,000	15.1
MORGAN CITY (ST. MARY)	23,525	20,825	2,700	11.5	23,550	20,775	2,775	11.8
HAMMOND (TANGIPAHOA)	39,150	34,300	4,850	12.4	39,225	34,125	5,100	13.0
ST. JOSEPH (TENSAS)	3,300	3,000	300	9.0	3,125	2,850	275	9.2
FARMERVILLE (UNION)	8,725	7,750	975	11.3	8,625	7,700	925	10.7
ABBEVILLE (VERMILION)	19,925	17,550	2,375	11.9	19,850	17,400	2,450	12.4
LEESVILLE (VERNON)	19,300	17,650	1,650	8.5	19,175	17,625	1,550	8.1
BOGALUSA (WASHINGTON)	18,325	16,375	1,950	10.6	18,200	16,250	1,950	10.7
MINDEN (WEBSTER)	19,150	16,975	2,175	11.4	19,425	17,150	2,275	11.7
OAK GROVE (WEST CARROLL)	4,475	3,750	725	16.4	4,275	3,550	725	16.8
ST. FRANCISVILLE (W. FELIC.)	4,375	3,900	475	10.8	4,200	3,750	450	10.8
WINNFIELD (WINN)	5,700	5,250	450	7.9	5,700	5,250	450	8.0

NOTE: LABOR MARKET AREAS ARE DESIGNATED BY NAME OF PRINCIPAL TOWN, BUT INCLUDE ALL OF PARISH IN PARENTHESES.

ABOVE DATA ROUNDED TO NEAREST 25 EXCEPT LMAS AND STATEWIDE WHICH ARE ROUNDED TO NEAREST 100. SUBTOTALS MAY NOT ADD TO TOTALS DUE TO ROUNDING. RATES COMPUTED FROM UNROUNDED DATA.

ALEXANDRIA AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	October 1988*	Sept. 1988**	October 1987**	Net Change From Sept. 1988	Net Change From October 1987
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	46.1	45.8	46.2	+ 0.3	- 0.1
MANUFACTURING	3.3	3.3	3.4	0	- 0.1
Durable Goods	1.9	1.9	2.1	0	- 0.2
Lumber & Wood Products	0.4	0.4	0.4	0	0
Other Durable Goods	1.5	1.5	1.7	0	- 0.2
Nondurable Goods	1.4	1.4	1.3	0	+ 0.1
Food & Kindred Products	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	0.9	0.9	0.8	0	+ 0.1
MINING	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
CONSTRUCTION	2.4	2.5	2.5	- 0.1	- 0.1
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	2.2	2.2	2.2	0	0
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	11.1	11.1	10.9	0	+ 0.2
Wholesale Trade	2.2	2.2	2.2	0	0
Wholesale Trade-Durable Goods	1.2	1.2	1.2	0	0
Wholesale Trade-Nondurable Goods	1.0	1.0	1.0	0	0
Retail Trade	8.9	8.9	8.7	0	+ 0.2
General Merchandise	2.1	2.0	1.9	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Auto Dlrs. & Svc. Sta.	1.0	1.0	0.9	0	+ 0.1
Eating & Drinking Places	2.3	2.4	2.3	- 0.1	0
Other Retail Trade	3.5	3.5	3.6	0	- 0.1
FINANCE, INS., & REAL ESTATE	2.6	2.6	2.6	0	0
SERVICES	11.7	11.6	11.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Health Services	5.1	5.1	5.0	0	+ 0.1
GOVERNMENT	12.6	12.3	12.9	+ 0.3	- 0.3
Federal	2.8	2.7	2.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
State and Local	9.8	9.6	10.2	+ 0.2	- 0.4
State	4.6	4.6	4.9	0	- 0.3
Local	5.2	5.0	5.3	+ 0.2	- 0.1

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Alexandria LMA was estimated at 46,100 during the month of October. This estimate was 300 more than last month and 100 less compared to October of last year.

Employment in manufacturing was estimated at 3,300 for October. This estimate was unchanged compared to September, but an overall decrease of 100 from October of last year. The change was a result of a 200 decrease in durable goods and a 100 increase in nondurable goods.

Employment in nonmanufacturing was estimated at 42,800 during October. This estimate was 300 more than September, and the same figure as last October. The increase from September was a result of an increase in government and services, due to the continuing increase of personnel in education.

During the next thirty days, the number of employed should remain fairly stable, with the number of unemployed rising slightly due to reductions anticipated in state government.

BATON ROUGE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	October 1988*	Sept. 1988**	October 1987**	Net Change From Sept. 1988	Net Change From October 1987
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	216.6	215.7	214.0	+ 0.9	+ 2.6
MANUFACTURING	18.9	18.9	18.7	0	+ 0.2
Durable Goods	3.9	3.9	3.9	0	0
Lumber and Wood Products	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	0.7	0.7	0.7	0	0
Fabricated Metal Products	1.0	1.0	1.1	0	- 0.1
Other Durable Goods	1.7	1.7	1.6	0	+ 0.1
Nondurable Goods	15.0	15.0	14.8	0	+ 0.2
Food & Kindred Products	1.9	1.9	1.9	0	0
Printing & Publishing	1.4	1.4	1.5	0	- 0.1
Chemicals and Petroleum Products	10.3	10.3	10.2	0	+ 0.1
Other Nondurable Goods	1.4	1.4	1.2	0	+ 0.2
MINING	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
CONSTRUCTION	21.7	21.4	19.8	+ 0.3	+ 1.9
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILTIES	10.4	10.5	10.2	- 0.1	+ 0.2
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	52.5	52.1	51.7	+ 0.4	+ 0.8
Wholesale Trade	11.5	11.6	11.4	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Wholesale Trade-Durable Goods	7.8	7.9	7.7	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Wholesale Trade-Nondurable Goods	3.7	3.7	3.7	0	0
Retail Trade	41.0	40.5	40.3	+ 0.5	+ 0.7
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	13.6	13.5	13.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Banking	3.4	3.4	3.6	0	- 0.2
SERVICES	43.9	44.2	43.7	- 0.3	+ 0.2
GOVERNMENT	54.8	54.3	55.7	+ 0.5	- 0.9
Federal	2.2	2.2	2.2	0	0
State and Local	52.6	52.1	53.5	+ 0.5	- 0.9
State	30.0	29.5	31.1	+ 0.5	- 1.1
Local	22.6	22.6	22.4	0	+ 0.2

BATON ROUGE AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	October '88*	Sept. '88**	October '87**	October '88*	Sept. '88**	October '87**	October '88*	Sept. '88**	October '87**
All MANUFACTURING (1)	$540.96	$561.51	$541.55	42.0	42.7	44.1	$12.88	$13.15	$12.28
Petro-Chemicals	702.41	727.30	713.48	45.2	45.8	46.3	15.54	15.88	15.41

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 12,300 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

BATON ROUGE AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural employment in the Baton Rouge LMA, at 216,600 during October, was up 900 from the September revised estimate and up 2,600 over the comparable period a year ago.

Employment in manufacturing, at 18,900, showed no change in the current period but was up 200 over last October. A drop in fabricated metal products was offset by an increase in other durable goods, resulting in no net change for the durable goods segment. Nondurable goods were up due to more business in chemical and petroleum products and in other nondurable goods.

Total nonmanufacturing was up 900 during the current period. Construction was up due to more business in general building contractors-nonresidential buildings. Transportation and public utilities decreased due to less business in services incidental to water transportation. Wholesale trade was down due to less demand for metals and minerals. Retail trade was up due to a seasonal increase in department stores and more business in food stores and in eating and drinking places. Finance, insurance and real estate rose due to increased demand for accident and health insurance and medical service plans. Services decreased due to less business in personnel supply services, and seasonal declines in miscellaneous amusement and recreation services. Government was up due to a seasonal increase in state government education services.

Average weekly earnings of the Baton Rouge LMA's 12,300 production workers in all manufacturing was $540.96, down $20.55 from the September revised average. Average weekly hours, at 42.0, were down 0.7 hours. Average hourly earnings, at $12.88, were down $0.27 per hour. Less overtime worked at premium pay contributed to these changes.

Total employment of the Baton Rouge LMA's residents was 244,800 during October, up 1,300 from the revised September estimate and up 3,900 from the year-ago total. Unemployment, at 23,100, was down 600 during the current period and up 1,100 from October of last year. The local unemployment rate for October was 8.6 percent, down from 8.9 percent for September revised and up from 8.5 percent for last October. Baton Rouge's civilian labor force totaled 267,900 during October, up 700 from the prior month, and 3,900 above the total for last October.

The Baton Rouge Job Service Office served 2,477 individuals with new or renewal applications and placed 528 applicants in jobs during October 1988.

The consumer price index for September 1988 for all urban consumers was 119.8 and for all urban wage and clerical workers 118.5 using base period 1982-84 = 100.

Employment is expected to show seasonal increases. Unemployment should show a small decline.

HOUMA - THIBODAUX AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	October 1988*	Sept. 1988**	October 1987**	Net Change From Sept. 1988	Net Change From October 1987
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	54.0	53.1	53.0	+ 0.9	+ 1.0
MANUFACTURING	4.7	4.3	4.9	+ 0.4	- 0.2
Durable Goods	3.0	3.0	2.8	0	+ 0.2
Nondurable Goods	1.7	1.3	2.1	+ 0.4	- 0.4
MINING	5.9	5.9	5.7	0	+ 0.2
CONSTRUCTION	1.8	1.8	1.4	0	+ 0.4
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	6.2	6.2	5.6	0	+ 0.6
Water Transportation	3.9	3.9	3.3	0	+ 0.6
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	13.5	13.6	13.7	- 0.1	- 0.2
Wholesale Trade	2.7	2.8	2.9	- 0.1	- 0.2
Retail Trade	10.8	10.8	10.8	0	0
Eating & Drinking Places	3.3	3.3	3.0	0	+ 0.3
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	2.1	2.1	2.3	0	- 0.2
SERVICES	9.2	9.2	8.7	0	+ 0.5
GOVERNMENT	10.6	10.0	10.7	+ 0.6	- 0.1
Federal	0.5	0.5	0.4	0	+ 0.1
State and Local	10.1	9.5	10.3	+ 0.6	- 0.2
State	2.9	2.4	3.0	+ 0.5	- 0.1
Local	7.2	7.1	7.3	+ 0.1	- 0.1

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Houma-Thibodaux LMA pushed up to 54,000, a level 900 above September. The gains were mostly in manufacturing and government. Since October 1987, total employment showed a gain of 1,000.

Manufacturing employment totaled 4,700 in October, up 400 from the previous month. Durable goods remained unchanged. Seasonal gains in sugar processing caused an increase in nondurable goods.

Mining showed no change. Construction held steady. Transportation and public utilities remained at the same level. Wholesale trade exhibited a small seasonal downturn. Finance, insurance, and real estate displayed no significant change. An increase in business services was balanced by small decreases in other industries in the services division. State government was boosted by a return to normal levels of employment by state colleges. Local government edged up in employment by the public schools.

Estimated unemployment in October moved down to 6,200, a level 300 below September. Unemployment presently comprises 8.9 percent of the labor force, compared to 9.5 percent in September and 16.0 percent in October of last year. Recipients of regular unemployment insurance benefits totaled 693.

Nonagricultural employment in the coming months is expected to display a small overall seasonal increase. Retail trade will benefit from shopping for the holiday season. Mining and construction will be hampered by winter weather conditions. Unemployment will probably decrease as many entrants and re-entrants withdraw from the labor force.

LAFAYETTE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	October 1988*	Sept. 1988**	October 1987**	Net Change From Sept. 1988	Net Change From October 1987
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	84.2	83.2	82.4	+ 1.0	+ 1.8
MANUFACTURING	6.1	5.9	5.8	+ 0.2	+ 0.3
Durable Goods	1.5	1.5	1.3	0	+ 0.2
Nondurable Goods	4.6	4.4	4.5	+ 0.2	+ 0.1
Food & Kindred Products	1.7	1.4	1.6	+ 0.3	+ 0.1
MINING	10.5	10.6	10.6	- 0.1	- 0.1
CONSTRUCTION	3.4	3.2	3.2	+ 0.2	+ 0.2
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	5.9	5.9	5.7	0	+ 0.2
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	23.2	23.1	22.0	+ 0.1	+ 1.2
Wholesale Trade	5.4	5.3	5.1	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
Wholesale Trade-Durable Goods	3.2	3.1	3.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Wholesale Trade-Nondurable Goods	2.2	2.2	2.1	0	+ 0.1
Retail Trade	17.8	17.8	16.9	0	+ 0.9
General Merchandise	2.9	2.9	2.7	0	+ 0.2
Food Stores	2.9	2.8	2.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Auto. Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.8	1.8	1.7	0	+ 0.1
Other Retail Trade	10.2	10.3	9.7	- 0.1	+ 0.5
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	3.5	3.5	3.8	0	- 0.3
Banking	1.0	1.0	1.2	0	- 0.2
SERVICES	18.7	18.7	18.3	0	+ 0.4
GOVERNMENT	12.9	12.3	13.0	+ 0.6	- 0.1
Federal	0.8	0.8	1.0	0	- 0.2
State and Local	12.1	11.5	12.0	+ 0.6	+ 0.1
State	5.2	4.8	5.2	+ 0.4	0
Local	6.9	6.7	6.8	+ 0.2	+ 0.1

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Lafayette LMA was estimated at 84,200, an increase of 1,000 workers from the September 1988 revised estimate.

Manufacturing was up by 200 from last month due to seasonal growth in food and kindred products. Mining lost 100 workers since last month. Construction rose by 200 in October due to increases in heavy construction and special trade contracts. The durable goods sector of wholesale trade was largely responsible for the increase in total trade. Government rose by 600 in October with the fall semester in full operation. Other sectors showed no change from last month's estimates.

For the next thirty days, employment should increase due to seasonal hiring and the unemployment rate should remain fairly stable.

LAKE CHARLES AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	October 1988*	Sept. 1988**	October 1987**	Net Change From Sept. 1988	Net Change From October 1987
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	58.2	58.7	57.9	- 0.5	+ 0.3
MANUFACTURING	11.1	11.0	11.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Durable Goods	2.5	2.5	2.6	0	- 0.1
Stone, Clay & Glass Prod.	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	2.3	2.3	2.4	0	- 0.1
Nondurable Goods	8.6	8.5	8.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Food & Kindred Products	0.2	0.2	0.3	0	- 0.1
Chemical & Pet. Products	7.8	7.7	7.6	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Other Nondurable Goods	0.6	0.6	0.5	0	+ 0.1
MINING	0.8	0.9	0.9	- 0.1	- 0.1
CONSTRUCTION	4.0	4.1	3.8	- 0.1	+ 0.2
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	3.9	3.9	3.8	0	+ 0.1
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	14.0	14.2	14.4	- 0.2	- 0.4
Wholesale Trade	2.9	2.9	2.8	0	+ 0.1
Retail Trade	11.1	11.3	11.6	- 0.2	- 0.5
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.2	2.1	2.1	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Auto Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.3	1.3	1.2	0	+ 0.1
Eating & Drinking Places	3.5	3.7	3.9	- 0.2	- 0.4
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	2.7	2.8	2.8	- 0.1	- 0.1
Banking	1.1	1.1	1.0	0	+ 0.1
SERVICES	11.6	11.6	11.3	0	+ 0.3
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.5	0.5	0.6	0	- 0.1
Personal Services	0.4	0.5	0.4	- 0.1	0
GOVERNMENT	10.1	10.2	9.9	- 0.1	+ 0.2
Federal	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
State and Local	9.5	9.6	9.3	- 0.1	+ 0.2
State	3.1	3.2	3.6	- 0.1	- 0.5
Local	6.4	6.4	5.7	0	+ 0.7

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Lake Charles LMA was estimated at 58,200 for October 1988, a decrease of 500 from the previous month's revised estimate of 58,700.

Manufacturing employment increased by 100 workers since last month, with an increase in chemical and petroleum products. Mining showed a decrease of 100 workers since last month. Construction also showed a loss of 100. Wholesale and retail trade decreased by 200, with losses in eating and drinking places partially offset by a slight increase in general merchandise stores. Employment in government and in finance, insurance, and real estate showed decreases of 100. Other sectors showed little or no change from the previous month.

Over the next 30 days, employment should increase due to the holiday season. The unemployment rate should remain unchanged.

MONROE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	October 1988*	Sept. 1988**	October 1987**	Net Change From Sept. 1988	Net Change From October 1987
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	54.4	54.2	54.0	+ 0.2	+ 0.4
MANUFACTURING	7.4	7.4	7.1	0	+ 0.3
Durable Goods	2.3	2.3	2.2	0	+ 0.1
Lumber & Wood Products	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	2.1	2.1	2.0	0	+ 0.1
Nondurable Goods	5.1	5.1	4.9	0	+ 0.2
Food & Kindred Products	0.7	0.7	0.7	0	0
Chemical & Allied Products	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	3.9	3.9	3.7	0	+ 0.2
MINING	0.3	0.3	0.4	0	- 0.1
CONSTRUCTION	2.5	2.6	2.6	- 0.1	- 0.1
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	2.6	2.6	2.7	0	- 0.1
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	14.1	13.8	14.3	+ 0.3	- 0.2
Wholesale Trade	3.8	3.7	3.8	+ 0.1	0
Retail Trade	10.3	10.1	10.5	+ 0.2	- 0.2
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.4	2.3	2.4	+ 0.1	0
Auto Dealers & Serv. Sta.	1.0	1.0	1.2	0	- 0.2
Eating & Drinking Places	3.3	3.3	3.4	0	- 0.1
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	4.5	4.6	4.7	- 0.1	- 0.2
Banking	1.0	1.0	1.1	0	- 0.1
SERVICES	11.9	12.0	11.6	- 0.1	+ 0.3
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
Personal Services	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Health Services	5.3	5.3	5.2	0	+ 0.1
GOVERNMENT	11.1	10.9	10.6	+ 0.2	+ 0.5
Federal	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
State and Local	10.5	10.3	10.0	+ 0.2	+ 0.5
State	5.0	4.9	4.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Local	5.5	5.4	5.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.3

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment, estimated at 54,400 during mid-October, was 200 above the September estimate and 400 above the estimate one year ago.

Manufacturing was unchanged over the month and was 300 above the same period one year ago.

Wholesale and retail trade, estimated at 14,100, was 300 above the September estimate. Government was up by 200 workers. Construction, services, and finance, insurance and real estate each had nominal losses of 100 each. All other segments were unchanged over the month.

Employment is expected to increase slightly as preparations for the holiday season get under way. Unemployment will remain high but should decline slightly over the next 60 days.

NEW ORLEANS AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	October 1988*	Sept. 1988**	October 1987**	Net Change From Sept. 1988	Net Change From October 1987
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	510.8	509.8	510.7	+ 1.0	+ 0.1
MANUFACTURING	43.1	42.9	42.2	+ 0.2	+ 0.9
Durable Goods	22.1	22.1	20.6	0	+ 1.5
Lumber and Wood Products	0.4	0.4	0.5	0	- 0.1
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	1.3	1.3	1.2	0	+ 0.1
Fabricated Metal Products	2.2	2.2	2.2	0	0
Machinery	2.7	2.7	2.6	0	+ 0.1
Transportation Equipment	13.5	13.5	12.2	0	+ 1.3
Ship & Boatbuilding & Repairing	9.9	9.9	8.5	0	+ 1.4
Other Durable Goods	2.0	2.0	1.9	0	+ 0.1
Nondurable Goods	21.0	20.8	21.6	+ 0.2	- 0.6
Food & Kindred Products	6.0	5.8	6.3	+ 0.2	- 0.3
Apparel & Other Textile Products	1.7	1.7	1.8	0	- 0.1
Paper & Allied Products	0.7	0.7	0.8	0	- 0.1
Printing & Publishing	3.7	3.7	3.8	0	- 0.1
Chemicals and Allied Products	4.0	4.0	3.9	0	+ 0.1
Petroleum & Coal Products	4.5	4.5	4.6	0	- 0.1
Other Nondurable Goods	0.4	0.4	0.4	0	0
MINING	15.3	15.1	14.6	+ 0.2	+ 0.7
Oil & Gas Extraction	14.4	14.2	13.6	+ 0.2	+ 0.8
CONSTRUCTION	21.7	21.9	22.1	- 0.2	- 0.4
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	43.7	44.3	43.4	- 0.6	+ 0.3
Railroad Transportation	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
Water Transportation	12.9	13.4	12.5	- 0.5	+ 0.4
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	132.1	131.5	135.0	+ 0.6	- 2.9
Wholesale Trade	31.9	31.8	31.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.4
Wholesale Trade-Durable Goods	18.3	18.2	18.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
Wholesale Trade-Nondurable Goods	13.6	13.6	13.5	0	+ 0.1
Retail Trade	100.2	99.7	103.5	+ 0.5	- 3.3
General Merchandise	14.0	13.8	13.8	+ 0.2	+ 0.2
Food Stores	18.8	18.5	19.0	+ 0.3	- 0.2
Eating & Drinking Places	33.4	33.5	35.3	- 0.1	- 1.9
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	33.4	33.4	34.1	0	- 0.7
Banking	7.1	7.2	7.2	- 0.1	- 0.1
SERVICES	137.3	136.4	134.3	+ 0.9	+ 3.0
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	12.9	12.8	12.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Health Services	36.6	36.4	36.0	+ 0.2	+ 0.6
GOVERNMENT	84.2	84.3	85.0	- 0.1	- 0.8
Federal	15.7	15.8	15.9	- 0.1	- 0.2
State and Local	68.5	68.5	69.1	0	- 0.6
State	18.6	18.6	18.8	0	- 0.2
Local	49.9	49.9	50.3	0	- 0.4

NEW ORLEANS AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	October '88*	Sept. '88**	October '87**	October '88*	Sept. '88**	October '87**	October '88*	Sept. '88**	October '87**
All MANUFACTURING	$445.95	$435.38	$431.21	41.6	40.5	40.3	$10.72	$10.75	$10.70
Durable Goods	382.99	371.50	388.08	40.7	38.9	39.6	9.41	9.55	9.80
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	274.05	253.12	288.92	29.0	28.0	31.1	9.45	9.04	9.29
Fabricated Metal Products	365.40	363.91	396.40	40.6	36.5	40.0	9.00	9.97	9.91
Ship & Boatbuilding and Repairing	373.75	353.02	365.93	41.9	39.4	38.6	8.92	8.96	9.48
Nondurable Goods	515.82	504.71	471.50	42.7	42.2	41.0	12.08	11.96	11.50
Food & Kindred Products	315.74	322.59	310.95	36.8	36.7	37.6	8.58	8.79	8.27
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	184.26	179.92	154.11	36.2	34.6	30.7	5.09	5.20	5.02
Paper & Allied Products	392.00	366.36	407.24	46.5	43.0	45.4	8.43	8.52	8.97
Printing & Publishing	381.28	373.18	366.11	39.8	39.2	40.1	9.58	9.52	9.13
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	765.12	793.36	741.14	45.3	49.4	44.3	16.89	16.06	16.73

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 29,800 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

NEW ORLEANS AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the New Orleans LMA in October increased to 510,800, a level 1,000 above September. The largest increases were seasonal in nature. Over the year, nonagricultural employment gained 100 workers, with decreases in some industry divisions offset by larger increases in others.

Manufacturing employment totaled 43,100, up 200 over the previous month. Food and kindred products experienced gains in employment due to seasonal factors affecting sugar and seafood processing.

Mining edged up, with gains primarily in oil and gas extraction. Construction lost workers mostly in the building construction segment. Transportation and public utilities decreased with the majority of the decline attributed to the downturn in local port activity. Wholesale and retail trade showed normal seasonal gains. Finance, insurance and real estate held steady. Services showed significant gains in private educational services, business services and health services. Government showed a slight decrease in federal government.

Production workers in the area earned an average of $445.95 per week in October, up $10.57 from last month's average. Average weekly hours were 41.6, up one hour and six minutes from the previous month. Average hourly earnings were $10.72, down three cents from the previous month. Compared to one year ago, weekly earnings are up $14.74 in manufacturing.

Estimated unemployment in October moved down to 51,300, a level 1,800 below September. Seasonal factors were partly responsible for the decrease. Joblessness presently comprises 8.6 percent of the labor force, compared with 8.9 percent in September and 10.0 percent in October of last year. The October rate was lower than the state rate of 9.5 percent. Recipients of regular unemployment benefits totaled 8,063.

Nonagricultural employment in the coming months is predicted to show a small overall seasonal increase. Wholesale and retail trade will exhibit increases from holiday season shopping. Services will benefit from the opening of the racing season. Less favorably, construction and mining will display losses reflecting winter weather conditions. Unemployment will probably show a slight decrease.

SHREVEPORT AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	October 1988*	Sept. 1988**	October 1987**	Net Change From Sept. 1988	Net Change From October 1987
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	132.8	132.4	133.9	+ 0.4	- 1.1
MANUFACTURING	17.4	17.4	17.5	0	- 0.1
Durable Goods	12.6	12.5	12.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Lumber and Wood Products	0.4	0.4	0.5	0	- 0.1
Metals and Machinery	7.4	7.3	7.3	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Primary and Fabricated Metals	1.7	1.6	1.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Machinery, Inc. Electrical	5.7	5.7	5.8	0	- 0.1
Other Durable Goods	4.8	4.8	4.7	0	+ 0.1
Nondurable Good	4.8	4.9	5.0	- 0.1	- 0.2
Food & Kindred Products	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
Printing & Publishing	1.3	1.3	1.4	0	- 0.1
Petroleum & Coal Products	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	2.1	2.2	2.2	- 0.1	- 0.1
MINING	2.9	2.9	3.3	0	- 0.4
CONSTRUCTION	7.7	7.8	7.5	- 0.1	+ 0.2
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	8.1	8.1	8.2	0	- 0.1
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	32.0	31.7	32.7	+ 0.3	- 0.7
Wholesale Trade	7.6	7.7	8.0	- 0.1	- 0.4
Retail Trade	24.4	24.0	24.7	+ 0.4	- 0.3
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	6.9	6.9	7.2	0	- 0.3
SERVICES	32.7	32.9	32.4	- 0.2	+ 0.3
GOVERNMENT	25.1	24.7	25.1	+ 0.4	0
Federal	4.7	4.7	4.7	0	0
State and Local	20.4	20.0	20.4	+ 0.4	0
State	6.1	6.1	5.9	0	+ 0.2
Local	14.3	13.9	14.5	+ 0.4	- 0.2

SHREVEPORT AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	October '88*	Sept. '88**	October '87**	October '88*	Sept. '88**	October '87**	October '88*	Sept. '88**	October '87**
All MANUFACTURING	$481.22	$478.30	$465.94	41.2	41.7	40.8	$11.68	$11.47	$11.42
Lumber and Wood Products	274.88	308.39	290.33	33.4	38.5	39.5	8.23	8.01	7.35
Metals and Machinery	413.76	406.88	432.18	46.7	49.2	49.0	8.86	8.27	8.82
Food and Kindred Products	333.63	339.81	307.31	41.6	41.9	38.9	8.02	8.11	7.90
Printing and Publishing	345.80	353.79	349.80	36.4	36.7	36.4	9.50	9.64	9.61
Petroleum and Coal Products	560.41	586.71	520.31	46.2	47.7	44.7	12.13	12.30	11.64

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 12,700 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

SHREVEPORT AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural employment in the Shreveport LMA moved to 132,800, up from the revised September estimate of 132,400. Manufacturing employment was unchanged between September and October, while nonmanufacturing employment increased to 115,400, up 400 from the September total.

Total manufacturing employment, estimated at 17,400, remained the same as the revised September total and was 100 less than the October 1987 estimate.

Nonmanufacturing employment increased to 115,400, up from the revised September estimate of 115,000, while remaining below the year-ago estimate of 116,400. The only employment gains occurred in trade and government. Employment in trade reflects a gain of 300 over the September estimate, while government employment rose 400. Job losses occurred in construction and in services.

The Shreveport labor market area had 12,700 production workers in manufacturing, with weekly earnings averaging $481.22, up from $478.30 for September and $465.94 one year ago. Average weekly hours dropped to 41.2, down from 41.7 in September. Average hourly earnings of $11.68 moved up from $11.47 for the previous month and $11.42 one year ago.

The civilian labor force, estimated at 165,500, included 150,100 employed and 15,400 unemployed. The unemployment rate for October for this LMA was 9.3 percent.

Seasonal factors will affect employment during the last two months of the year. Retail trade employment should experience normal growth, while construction and lumber and wood products activities decrease. An expected layoff will result in employment losses in durable goods manufacturing.